Message Text

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INFO AMCONCUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

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AMEMBASSY MPAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

LAGOS FOR CODEL DIGGS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV RH US UK

SUBJ: RHODESIA: CONGRESSMAN DIGGS MEETING WITH FONMIN MWALE

1. SUMMARY: FONMIN MWALE DISCUSSES DAR FRONTLINE SUMMIT, STRESSING FRONTLINE AGREEMENT THAT US AND UK SHOULD GET ON WITH ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS. UK SHOULD NOT BE LET OFF THE HOOK; IT HAS LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY. AAP MEETING SHOULD BE IN MALTA CONTEXT; MILITARY SIDE COULD BE DISCUSSED IMMEDIATELY AND CONSTITUTIONAL ASPECTS LATER. MEETING SHOULD TAKE PLACE BEFORE APRIL 18 (PRIOR TO UK AS ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY REPORTING TO UN). CONGRESSMAN CONFIDENTIAL

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DIGGS AND PARTY INDICATE PRESIDENT CARTER HAS MADE NOTABLE PROGRESS IN DEALING WITH AFRICAN PROBLEMS BUT IS SUBJECT TO POLITICAL RESTRAINTS. MWALE CITES POSSIBILITY THAT INTERNAL SETTLEMENT MAY WIN RECOGNITION IN SOME QUARTERS. SMITH WANTS TO INTERNATIONALIZE THE WAR; MUZOREWA AND SITHOLE ARE HIS MOUTH PIECES IN THIS REGARD. ZAMBIA WILL NOT BE PROVOKED INTO HITTING RHODESIA; THIS

IS WHAT SMITH WANTS. MWALE CANNOT PREDICT HOW LONG THE ARMED STRUGGLE MAY TAKE. END SUMMARY.

- 2. CONGRESSMAN DIGGS, ACCOMPANIED BY MRS. CHALLENOR, MR. LANPHER AND DCM MET WITH FONMIN MWALE FOR ONE AND A HALF HOURS MARCH 27. AFTER INITIAL PLEASANTRIES, MWALE MOVED IMMEDIATELY TO THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM.
- --FRONTLINE SUMMIT AT DAR HAD CLEARLY STATED ITS POSITION.
 THE US AND UK SHOULD GET ON WITH THE ANGLO-AMERICAN
 PROPOSALS. THESE WERE ACCEPTED BY THE OAU, THE UN, THE
 PATRIOTIC FRONT AND THE FRONTLINE AS THE BASIS FOR
 NEGOTIATIONS. UK AND US SHOULD IMMEDIATELY MOVE TO A
 FOLLOW-UP ON MALTA. PRINCIPAL FOCUS SHOULD BE ON
 MILITARY ARRANGEMENTS DURING THE INTERIM PERIOD AND
 CEASEFIRE. AFTER THESE QUESTIONS WERE RESOLVED, THERE
 WOULD BE TIME AND THE OCCASION TO DEAL WITH CONSTITUTIONAL
 MATTERS. SMITH'S INTERNAL SOLUTION WAS SIMPLY AN ATTEMPT
 TO MUDDY THE WATERS. THE UK SHOULD NOT BE LET OFF THE HOOK.
 IT HAS LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR RHODESIA AND
 CANNOT BE PERMITTED TO SIMPLY WASH ITS HANDS OF THIS
 PROBLEM.
- --UK AND US SHOULD CALL A MEETING ON THEIR PROPOSALS IMMEDIATELY. AS THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY THE UK MUST REPORT BACK TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL BY APRIL 18 AND CONFIDENTIAL.

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MEETING SHOULD TAKE PLACE BEFORE THEN.

- --IF THE AAP IS PERMITTED TO LANGUISH THERE IS A DANGER THAT WE COULD SEE A WAVE OF RECOGNITIONS FOR THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, MWALE SAID THAT SUCH A WAVE WOULD BE STIMULATED BY THE UK.
- 3. CONGRESSMAN DIGGS AND MEMBERS OF HIS PARTY OUTLINED FOR THE FOREIGN MINISTER SOME OF THE POLITICAL CONTRAINTS CONFRONTING PRESIDENT CARTER IN ADDRESSING AFRICAN PRBLEMS. THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION HAS MADE NOTABLE PROGRESS IN ITS APPROACH TO AFRICAN PROBLEMS. HOWEVER, THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRESIDENT'S POLICIES IS UNDER REVIEW. THE REASON WHY THERE HAS BEEN NO US CONDEMNATION OF THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT STEMS FROM INTERNAL US POLITICAL REALITIES. THOSE WHO FAVOR AN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT FALL IN THE SAME CAMP AS THOSE WHO OPPOSE THE PANAMA CANAL TREATIES. PRESIDENT MUST OVERCOME THE PANAMA CANAL HURDLE BEFORE HE WILL BE FREE TO DEAL WITH SOUTHERN AFRICAN PROBLEMS.
- 4. CONGRESSMAN DIGGS NOTED THE SACRIFICES ZAMBIA HAS MADE FOR THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND

THE GENERAL LACK OF RECOGNITION OF THIS CONTRIBUTION. FOR ITS PART THE USG IS NOT DOING ENOUGH TO BRING PRESSURE ON SOUTH AFRICA. IF WITHIN 90 DAYS THERE IS NO MOVEMENT ON THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSAL OR SOMETHING SIMILAR THERE IS A RISK THAT THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT MAY BE CONSUMATED. THIS DEVELOPMENT WOULD ENTAIL FURTHER SACRIFICES BY ZAMBIA, BOTSWANA AND MOZAMBIQUE.

5. MWALE NOTED THAT HIS GOVT WAS GRAVELY CONCERNED ABOUT THE POTENTIAL FOR AN EAST-WEST CONFRONTATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. THIS IS WHAT SMITH IS STRIVING FOR. HE IS "MESSING THE AFRICANS UP" TO THE POINT WHERE THEY WILL BE FIGHTING AMONG THEMSELVES; THEN HE WILL CALL FOR THE SUPPORT OF THOSE IN THE WEST WHO ONCE CONDEMNED CONFIDENTIAL

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HIM. HOWEVER, THE REAL CONFRONTATION LOOMS IN SOUTH AFRICA ONCE WHITE POWER THERE COMES UNDER STRAIN.

6. ASKED IF ZAPU WOULD SEND MILITARY FORCES INTO RHODESIA FROM ZAMBIA TO DISRUPT THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT, MWALE REPLIED THAT SUCH FORCES WERE ALREADY THERE. HE NOTED THAT THESE ARE NOT ZAPU TROOPS, RATHER THEY ARE PATRIOTIC FRONT TROOPS. HE COULD NOT PREDICT HOW LONG THE MILITARY STRUGGLE WOULD TAKE. THE PATRIOTIC FORCES IN ZAMBIA ARE, HE SAID, WELL TRAINED AS GUERRILLAS AND WELL ON THEIR WAY TO BE TRAINED IN CONVENTIONAL WARFARE. ZAMBIA WAS THE OBJECT OF RHODESIAN ATTACKS BECAUSE IT IS SERVING AS A REAR BASE FOR THE PATRIOTIC FRONT. MWALE RULED OUT ANY ATTACK BY ZAMBIA ON RHODESIA. THIS IS WHAT SMITH WANTS--IT WOULD BE AN EXCUSE FOR HIM TO INTERNATIONALIZE THE WAR. FURTHER, ZAMBIA WOULD HAVE MORAL SCRUPLES ABOUT BOMBING CITIES IN RHODESIA BECAUSE THIS WOULD MEAN KILLING THE VERY PEOPLE IT HAS BEEN SACRIFICING FOR. THE MEETING ENDED WITH BOTH PARTIES EXPRESSING SATISFACTION WITH THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AND WITH THE PROMISE TO REMAIN IN CONTACT. LOW

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